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Why do School-leavers Study Engineering in the Technological University Dublin and How Do They Get There: a Report of a Survey of 390 First Year Engineering Students in the Technological University Dublin and a Summary of the Data Collected Since 2003.

Eddie Conlon
Technological University Dublin, edward.conlon@tudublin.ie

Kathleen Murray

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Eddie Conlon

Kathleen Murray
Researcher

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction

This report sets out the findings of a survey of 389 first year engineering students who commenced studying in the Dublin Institute of Technology (DIT) in September 2007. The questionnaire was completed online using WebCT.

The background information on students is taken from DIT records. This data is based on the records of 525 students who were attending DIT courses in October 2007.

This set of records is different to that used in previous years in that in those years the data was based on those who accepted places in DIT. These students did not always attend. In 2007 of those who were offered places 83 did not ever attend. Some of these deferred their place before November 1. Another 7 deferred their places after that date while 2 never registered. Thus of the 617 places offered 13% never came. We are proposing that in future studies the data analysis should be based only on those who attend.

This report is the fourth in a series (there was no report in 2007) and attempts to pull all the data together for the five years for which it was collected. Direct comparison is not always possible as the questionnaire changed over the years. Also a full set of data is not available for 2006. Further, as stated above, the data set from student records is different this year. Notwithstanding these points clear trends are evident.

A separate document will analyse the schools from which our students came over the three years 2004,5 and 7.

General Information

Respondent by Course 2007

Course	Number of Students	%
First Year Engineering (Bolton Street)	92	23.7
BSc Transport Technology	5	1.3
BE Electrical and Electronic Engineering	18	4.6
BE Computer Engineering	4	1.0
BSc Product Design	34	8.7
BEngTech Engineering Systems Maintenance	15	3.9
BEngTech Manutronics Automation	15	3.9
BEngTech Civil Engineering	25	6.4
BEngTech Building Services Engineering	26	6.7
BEngTech Mechanical Engineering	28	7.2
BEngTech Automotive Management and Technology	18	4.6
BEngTech Electronics and Communications Engineering	18	4.6
BEngTech Electrical and Control Engineering	21	5.4
BTech Electrical Services Engineering	27	6.9
Cert/Diploma Electronic and Computer Systems Engineering	15	3.9
Preliminary Engineering	28	7.2
Total	389	100.0

Female Respondents by Course

Course	2007 Number	2007 %	2005 %	2004 %
First Year Engineering (Bolton Street)	11	28	30	16
BSc Transport Technology	1	3	0	5
BE Electrical and Electronic Engineering	0	0	3	2
B E Computer Engineering	0	0	3	2
BSc Product Design	9	23	23	37
BEng Tech Engineering Systems Maintenance	0	0	0	2
BEngTech Manutronics Automation	1	3	3	2
BEngTech Civil Engineering	2	5	8	9
BEngTech Building Services Engineering	5	13	3	5
BEngTech Mechanical Engineering	4	10	5	2
BEngTech Automotive Management and Technology	1	3	3	0
BEngTech Electronics and Communications Engineering	1	3	5	0
BEngTech Electrical And Control Engineering	0	0	3	5
BTech Electrical Services Engineering	2	5	3	0
Cert/Diploma Electronic and Computer Systems Engineering	0	0		2
Preliminary Engineering	2	5	8	7
Total	**39**	**100**	**100**	**100**

Schools

School of Origin (Location Ranked by Average in Each Province)

		2007 Number	2007 %	2005 %	2004 %	2003 %	Average %
LEINSTER	Dublin	272	55.6	48.8	45.8	47.5	49.4
	Kildare	49	10.0	9.4	8.4	3.2	7.8
	Meath	40	8.2	6.5	6.4	9.0	7.5
	Wicklow	24	4.9	7.5	5.3	5.4	5.8
	Wexford	15	3.1	2.5	4.1	4.1	3.5
	Louth	20	4.1	4.0	2.5	2.2	3.2
	Westmeath	7	1.4	2.5	3.2	2.4	2.4
	Longford	4	0.8	2.4	1.7	1.6	1.6
	Offaly	3	0.6	0.8	2.5	1.3	1.3
	Carlow	5	1.0	0.6	1.2	1.4	1.1
	Kilkenny	3	0.6	0.8	1.8	0.9	1.0
	Laois	7	1.4	0.3	1.0	0.5	0.8
		449	91.7	86.8	83.9	84.9	86.8
ULSTER	Cavan	12	2.5	4.0	3.3	2.4	3.1
	Monaghan	10	2.0	1.3	1.9	2.4	1.9
	Donegal	6	1.2	1.3	1.2	1.4	1.3
		27	5.7	6.6	6.4	6.2	6.2
MUNSTER	Tipperary	0	0	1.1	1.2	1.7	1.0
	Limerick	0	0	0.6	0.7	0.5	0.5
	Clare	0	0	0.2	0.6	0.3	0.3
	Cork	0	0	0.5	0	0.5	0.3
	Waterford	0	0	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.2
	Kerry	0	0	0.2	0.1	0	0.1
		0	0	2.7	3	3.3	2.3
CONNAUGHT	Mayo	5	1.0	1.7	3.3	2.5	2.1
	Leitrim	3	0.6	0.8	1.1	1.1	0.9
	Galway	2	0.4	0.6	0.8	0.9	0.7
	Sligo	1	0.2	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.5
	Roscommon	1	0.2	0.2	0.6	0	0.3
		12	2.4	3.8	6.4	5.0	4.4
		489*	100	100	100	100	100

***It is important to note the different basis for calculating these figures in 2007 (see Introduction). This new basis shows we are even more dependent on Leinster than we thought.**

Postal District Of Dublin Schools as Percentage of Dublin Schools (Ranked by average)

	2007* Number	2007* % (n=272)	2005 % (n=307)	2004 % (n=331)	2003 % (n=300)	Average %
Dublin 15	21	7.7	8.1	6.9	9.0	**7.9**
Dublin 2	23	8.5	7.8	5.2	6.0	**6.9**
Blackrock	19	7.0	5.2	7.6	6.3	**6.5**
Dublin 6W	14	5.1	6.5	7.3	6.0	**6.2**
Dublin 5	10	3.7	5.5	5.7	5.3	**5.1**
Dublin 6	16	5.9	4.2	3.6	3.3	**4.3**
Dublin 9	5	1.8	4.5	5.1	5.7	**4.3**
Skerries and Balbriggan	11	4.0	2.3	4.5	5.7	**4.1**
Dublin 16	10	3.7	2.3	3.6	5.7	**3.8**
Lucan	13	4.8	2.9	3.9	3.7	**3.8**
Swords	10	3.7	4.6	3.0	3.3	**3.7**
Dublin 13	15	5.5	3.6	1.5	3.7	**3.6**
Dublin 11	12	4.4	3.6	2.7	3.3	**3.5**
Stillorgan	9	3.3	3.9	3.6	3.3	**3.5**
Malahide	11	4.3	2.6	3.6	2.0	**3.1**
Dublin 4	12	4.4	3.6	2.4	1.0	**2.9**
Dublin 18	9	3.3	3.3	3.3	1.7	**2.9**
Dublin 22	7	2.6	2.6	2.4	3.7	**2.8**
Dublin 1	2	0.7	3.9	3.3	2.0	**2.5**
Dun Laoghaire	3	1.1	2.6	3.3	2.7	**2.4**
Portmarnock	6	2.2	1.6	1.8	3.7	**2.3**
Dublin 24	6	2.2	1.3	3.0	2.0	**2.1**
Dublin 3	6	2.2	0.9	3.0	1.7	**2.0**
Dublin 7	2	0.7	1.3	2.4	2.7	**1.8**
Dublin 12	6	2.2	1.3	0.9	1.7	**1.5**
Dublin 8	3	1.1	1.3	1.5	0.7	**1.2**
Dublin 14	0	0	2.9	0	1.0	**1.0**
Dublin 20	2	0.7	1.6	0.6	1.0	**1.0**
Rathcoole	0	0	0.9	0.9	2.0	**1.0**
Dublin 10	1	0.4	0.9	0.6	0	**0.5**
Rush	0	0	0.9	1.2	0	**0.5**
Dublin 17	1	0.4	0	0.9	0.3	**0.4**
Dalkey	1	0.4	0	0.3	0	**0.2**

***It is important to note the different basis for calculating these figures in 2007 (see Introduction).**

Top Schools 2007

	Name	County	Number of Students
1.	Institute of Education	Dublin	17
2.	St. Patrick's Classical School	Meath	11
3.	Malahide Community School	Dublin	11
4.	Coláiste Choilm	Dublin	8
5.	Meánscoil Iognáid Ris	Kildare	8
6.	Skerries Community College	Dublin	8
7.	Newpark Comprehensive School	Dublin	8
8.	Ashbourne Community School	Meath	8
9.	St. Benildus College	Dublin	7
10.	Coláiste Phádraig CBS	Dublin	7
11.	St. Fintan's High School	Dublin	7
12.	Beneavin De La Salle College	Dublin	7
13.	Patrician Secondary School	Kildare	7
14.	Moyle Park College	Dublin	6
15.	St. Laurence College	Dublin	6
16.	The High School	Dublin	6
17.	Presentation College	Wicklow	6
18.	St. Mac Dara's Community College	Dublin	6
19.	Castleknock Community College	Dublin	6
20.	Portmarnock Community School	Dublin	6
21.	Blackrock College	Dublin	5
22.	Newbridge College	Kildare	5
23.	Colaiste Mhuire	Westmeath	5
24.	St. Mary's Diocesan School	Louth	5
25.	Mount Temple Comprehensive School	Dublin	5
26.	Scoil Phobail Chuil Mhin	Dublin	5
27.	Castleknock College	Dublin	4
28.	Meánscoil Iognáid Rís	Dublin	4
29.	Marian College	Dublin	4
30.	Templeogue College	Dublin	4
31.	St. Andrews College	Dublin	4
32.	Franciscan College	Meath	4
33.	St. Macartan's College	Monaghan	4
34.	Lucan Community College	Dublin	4
35.	Community College	Meath	4
36.	St. Oliver's Post Primary	Meath	4

Mode of Entry to DIT
(Survey Respondents)

Mode of Entry A

Direct Entry Through CAO	2007 %	2006 %	2005 %	2004 %
Yes	89.6 (344)	84.7	84.7	80.3
Mature Student				
Yes	3.3 (13)	7.3	6.1	5.2

Mode of Entry B

	Number 2007	Number 2006	Number 2005	Number 2004
Transfer from other third level course	19	19	13	13
Transfer from post-leaving cert (PLC) course	10	31	28	15
International	22	24	14	27
Transfer from preliminary engineering	22	39	34	27

CAO Preference and Points

CAO Points and Preference by Course 2007

Programme	Minimum Points	Maximum Points	Average Points	Highest Preference	Lowest Preference	Average Preference
DT001	360	470	403	1	8	2
DT002	185	325	234	1	6	2
DT003	175	320	236	1	6	2
DT004	390	510	427	1	2	1
DT005	290	450	333	1	7	2
DT006	305	470	358	1	3	1
DT007	220	440	304	1	4	1
DT008	160	400	269	1	6	2
DT009	150	340	238	1	5	2
DT010	235	440	277	1	5	2
DT020	320	455	365	1	3	1
DT021	350	540	443	1	3	1
DT023	375	530	446	1	3	1
DT025	305	525	445	1	8	2
DT028	270	425	316	1	6	2
DT081	360	360	360	4	4	4
DT089	70	325	219	1	5	2

For the 454 students for whom points are available the range was from 70 to 540 points with an average of 352 points.

Mean Points 2003 to 2007

Course	2003	2004	2005	2007	Change 2003-7
DT001	417	421	417	403	-14
DT002	291	300	281	234	-57
DT003	291	294	283	236	-55
DT004	416	428	420	427	+11
DT005	342	348	342	333	-9
DT006	379	382	374	358	-21
DT007	333	322	312	304	-29
DT008	306	301	309	269	-37
DT009	310	289	254	238	-72
DT010	286	288	289	277	-9
DT020	379	370	374	365	-14
DT021	418	437	439	443	+25
DT023	n/a	n/a	n/a	446	n/a
DT025	423	430	446	445	+22
DT028	324	318	308	316	-8
DT081	364	387	337	360	-4
DT089	272	264	237	219	-53

Preferences 2007

	DT001	DT002	DT003	DT004	DT005	DT006	DT007	DT008	DT009	DT010	DT020	DT021	DT023	DT025	DT028	DT081	DT089
1st	19	10	3	33	18	39	29	11	9	18	21	6	3	44	4	0	9
2nd	5	4	4	2	12	7	5	4	7	6	8	3	0	14	2	0	2
3rd	4	1	2	0	3	6	1	2	2	1	2	1	1	6	3	0	1
4th	4	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	2	2	0	0	0	12	0	1	4
5th	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	0	0	0	5	0	0	1
6th	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	0
7th	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
8th	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
9th	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10th	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	37	18	10	35	35	52	36	18	23	30	31	10	4	87	10	1	17

Percentage First Preferences by Course

Course	2007	2005	2004	2003
DT001	51	57	62	66
DT002	56	39	27	46
DT003	30	72	39	36
DT004	94	96	33	37
DT005	51	44	26	31
DT006	75	85	39	44
DT007	81	82	48	73
DT008	61	71	37	59
DT009	39	62	49	61
DT010	60	52	66	75
DT020	68	71	94	84
DT021	60	33	50	46
DT023	75	n/a	n/a	n/a
DT025	51	39	51	48
DT028	40	56	35	51
DT081	0	14	100	50
DT089	53	43	67	53
Total	**48**	**61**	**48**	**53**

The big jump for Ordinary Degrees between 2004 and 2005 can be explained by changes in the format of the CAO form.

Leaving Certificate Results

Leaving Certificate Subjects 2007

	Number Did Higher	Number Did Pass	Total	2007 %	2005 %	2004 %
Maths	166	338	504	100	100	100
Physics	169	58	227	45	47	53
Chemistry	48	15	63	13	12	11
Engineering	120	6	126	25	25	25
Technical Drawing	121	23	144	29	34	40
Construction Studies	153	13	166	33	32	30
English	383	121	504	100	100	100

Results of Higher Level Subjects (Percentages)

	Did Higher 2007	Got Higher 2007	Got Higher 2005	Got Higher 2004
Maths	33	26	22	29
Physics	33	21	17	27
Chemistry	10	6	5	5
Engineering	24	21	23	25
Technical Drawing	24	18	21	29
Construction	30	28	29	29
English	70	52	50	54

THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS ARE BASED ON THE STUDENT SURVEYS.

Sources of Information on Third Level Courses

All tables are based on the numbers who gave each answer a first or second preference. In 2003 respondents were asked to rank all answers while in all other years they were asked to select their top 5.

Main Sources of Information on Third Level Courses: Ranked by Average

Source of Information	Number 2007	2007 %	2006 %	2005 %	2004 %	2003 %	Average %
Career Guidance Counselor	155	40	45	43	42	48	**44**
College Prospectus/literature	177	45	35	39	40	47	**41**
Website	117	30	31	24	20	23	**26**
College Open Days	100	26	23	26	21	21	**23**
Parents	78	20	19	19	22	13	**19**
Other Family Members	41	10	12	16	16	10	**13**
Friends	60	15	15	13	11	11	**13**
Information Leaflets	25	7	8	8	9	14	**9**
Other Teachers	17	4	12	8	11	6	**8**
Other	21	5	4	5	6	4	**5**
Newspapers and Other Magazines	12	3	3	2	2	3	**3**
Public Library	2	1	1	0	1	2	**1**

Main Source of Information on Third level Course by Gender (Percentage)

Source of Information	Male 2007	Female 2007	Male 2006	Female 2006	Male 2005	Female 2005	Male 2004	Female 2004
Career Guidance Counselor	40	23	45	46	42	45	42	39
College Prospectus/literature	45	51	33	49	39	40	39	49
College Open Days	26	21	23	32	26	23	22	15
Website	30	33	31	29	25	18	20	20
Parents	20	18	19	20	17	33	22	21
Other Family Members	11	10	12	20	16	23	15	17
Friends	15	15	15	20	12	15	11	12
Other Teachers	5	0	11	17	8	13	11	27
Information Leaflets	7	5	8	7	8	5	9	12
Other	5	5	5	0	5	3	6	5
Newspapers and Other Magazines	3	3	1	0	2	3	3	0
Public Library	1	0	0	2	1	0	1	0

Main Source of Information on Third level Course by Gender (Percentage) Average 2004-7

Source of Information	All Average 2004-7	Male Average 2004-7	Female Average 2004-7
Career Guidance Counselor	43	42	38
College Prospectus/literature	40	39	47
Website	26	27	25
College Open Days	24	24	23
Parents	20	20	23
Other Family Members	14	14	18
Friends	14	13	16
Other Teachers	9	9	14
Information Leaflets	8	8	7
Other	5	5	3
Newspapers and Other Magazines	3	2	2
Public Library	1	1	1

Rationale For Studying Engineering

All tables are based on the numbers who gave each answer a first or second preference. In 2003 respondents were asked to rank all answers while in all other years they were asked to select their top 5.

Reasons For Choosing To Study Engineering: Ranked by Average

	Number 2007	2007 %	2006 %	2005 %	2004 %	2003 %	Average %
I was always interested in how things work	154	40	41	39	43	52	**43**
I am interested in designing things	149	38	31	35	35	28	**33**
Engineering is a good career	103	26	33	29	29	29	**29**
I want to build things	93	24	24	26	25	30	**26**
Engineers are well paid	55	14	17	19	15	15	**16**
I like maths and physics	61	16	16	15	15	14	**15**
I liked engineering at school	52	13	16	15	15	13	**14**
I like working with computers	53	14	12	11	11	n/a	**12**
I liked Construction Studies at school	38	10	11	n/a	n/a	n/a	**11**
An engineering qualification will allow me to travel	32	8	7	8	8	9	**8**
Engineers make a positive contribution to society	15	4	7	n/a	n/a	n/a	**6**
My family is involved in engineering	17	4	6	4	4	8	**5**
Other	22	6	5	5	5	5	**5**

Reasons For Choosing Engineering By Gender (Percentage)

	Male 2007	Female 2007	Male 2006	Female 2006	Male 2005	Female 2005	Male 2004	Female 2004
I was always interested in how things work	39	41	40	44	39	38	42	50
Engineering is a good career	27	26	34	22	29	30	37	20
I am interested in designing things	37	41	30	44	34	48	30	52
I want to build things	25	13	23	39	26	23	26	13
Engineers are well paid	15	5	18	7	20	10	20	10
I liked engineering at school	15	3	18	2	17	5	15	10
I like maths and physics	14	31	15	22	14	30	12	13
I like working with computers	13	15	13	5	10	18	9	8
I liked Construction Studies at school	11	3	11	10	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
An engineering qualification will allow me to travel	8	10	7	15	8	5	7	10
Engineers make a positive contribution to society	4	5	7	12	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
My family is involved in engineering	5	10	6	7	5	3	5	13
Other	6	8	4	7	5	8	4	13

Reason for Choosing Engineering by Gender (Percentage) Average 2004-7

	All Average 2004-7	Male Average 2004-7	Female Average 2004-7
I was always interested in how things work	41	40	43
I am interested in designing things	35	33	46
Engineering is a good career	29	32	25
I want to build things	25	25	22
Engineers are well paid	16	18	8
I like maths and physics	16	14	24
I liked engineering at school	15	16	5
I like working with computers	12	11	12
I liked Construction Studies at school	11	11	7
An engineering qualification will allow me to travel	8	8	10
Engineers make a positive contribution to society	6	6	9
My family is involved in engineering	5	5	8
Other	5	5	9

Reason for Studying Engineering at DIT: Ranked by Average

	Number 2007	2007 %	2006 %	2005 %	2004 %	2003 %	Average %
DIT has a good reputation for engineering	196	50	52	50	54	67	**55**
DIT courses are more practical and applied	152	39	40	41	38	36	**39**
The DIT ladder system will allow me to transfer to a higher course when I finish my current course	75	20	26	26	22	18	**22**
Course not available anywhere else	58	15	17	21	25	24	**20**
DIT is located in the city centre	57	15	20	15	20	11	**16**
I didn't get engineering at a university	44	11	10	12	n/a	18	**13**
DIT is accessible by public transport from my family home	49	12	10	10	9	n/a	**10**
A current student or graduate of DIT recommended DIT	46	12	10	6	6	8	**8**
Other members of my family went to DIT	36	9	5	5	6	8	**7**
Other	25	6	4	5	6	4	**5**
My friends are in DIT	16	7	4	5	3	3	**4**
The staff are friendly and approachable	17	4	5	2	3	4	**4**
Other people in my school went to DIT	15	4	2	3	2	3	**3**

Reason for Studying Engineering at DIT by Gender (Percentage)

	Male 2007	Female 2007	Male 2006	Female 2006	Male 2005	Female 2005	Male 2004	Female 2004
DIT has a good reputation for engineering	53	46	52	54	50	53	56	40
DIT courses are more practical and applied	39	49	38	56	39	60	38	40
The DIT ladder system will allow me to transfer to a higher course when I finish my current course	21	18	25	27	28	18	22	20
Course not available anywhere else	17	25	17	25	20	33	24	40
DIT is located in the city centre	15	20	20	15	16	15	19	25
I didn't get engineering at a university	12	8	10	7	13	5	N/A	N/A
DIT is accessible by public transport from my family home	14	8	10	7	11	10	9	8
My friends are in DIT	7	10	5	0	6	0	3	3
Other members of my family went to DIT	9	15	5	7	6	3	6	5
A current student or graduate of DIT recommended DIT	11	20	9	12	5	10	7	5
Other	7	0	5	2	5	8	6	8
Other people in my school went to DIT	4	2	3	0	3	0	2	0
The staff are friendly and approachable	4	5	5	5	2	8	3	0

Reason for Studying engineering at DIT by Gender (Percentage) Average 2004-7

	All Average 2004-7	Male Average 2004-7	Female Average 2004-7
DIT has a good reputation for engineering	52	53	48
DIT courses are more practical and applied	40	39	51
The DIT ladder system will allow me to transfer to a higher course when I finish my current course	24	24	21
Course not available anywhere else	20	20	31
DIT is located in the city centre	18	18	19
I didn't get engineering at a university	11	12	7
DIT is accessible by public transport from my family home	10	11	8
My friends are in DIT	9	5	3
Other members of my family went to DIT	5	7	8
A current student or graduate of DIT recommended DIT	6	8	12
Other	5	6	5
Other people in my school went to DIT	3	3	1
The staff are friendly and approachable	4	4	5

Influencers on Decision to Study Engineering

In this section respondents were asked to indicate the strength of the influence of a range of people on their decision to study engineering and come to DIT.

Strong Positive Influence On Decision To Study Engineering (Ranked by Average)

	Number 2007	2007 %	2006 %	2005 %	2004 %	2003 %	Average %
Parent	160	41	41	38	36	30	**37**
Career Guidance Counsellor	105	27	27	28	23	26	**26**
An Engineer	92	24	24	23	22	n/a	**23**
Other Family Member	81	21	17	22	21	15	**19**
Engineering Teacher	65	17	10	12	14	14	**13**
A Current Student of DIT	56	14	15	14	7	9	**12**
Maths Teacher	43	11	11	10	10	6	**10**
Other	33	8	10	12	10	n/a	**10**
Construction Studies Teacher	34	9	9	n/a	n/a	n/a	**9**
An Ex-student of DIT	24	6	12	9	9	9	**9**
Other Teacher	38	10	7	8	6	7	**8**
Science Teacher	36	9	8	10	7	6	**8**
A member of Staff at DIT	28	7	6	5	5	6	**6**

All Positive Influence On Decision To Study Engineering by Gender (Percentage)

	Male 2007	Female 2007	Male 2006	Female 2006	Male 2005	Female 2005	Male 2004	Female 2004
Parent	71	71	70	56	72	80	65	74
Career Guidance Counsellor	59	37	54	59	54	52	48	42
An Engineer	36	47	40	39	41	40	34	40
Other Family Member	50	55	48	51	48	58	44	51
Engineering Teacher	22	3	29	5	25	8	25	19
A Current Student of DIT	29	53	31	37	25	25	21	26
Maths Teacher	31	34	29	39	25	40	25	40
Other	14	11	18	12	18	18	15	17
Construction Studies Teacher	24	5	20	10	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
An Ex-student of DIT	33	53	24	22	20	23	23	35
Other Teacher	24	34	25	24	21	30	19	40
Science Teacher	20	29	20	24	22	33	20	28
A Member of Staff at DIT	14	24	13	12	11	13	9	19

All Positive Influencers on Decision to Study Engineering by Gender (Percentage) Average 2004-7

	Male Average 2004-7	Female Average 2004-7
Parent	70	70
Career Guidance Counsellor	54	48
An Engineer	38	42
Other Family Member	48	54
Engineering Teacher	25	9
A Current Student of DIT	27	35
Maths Teacher	28	38
Other	16	15
Construction Studies Teacher	22	8
An Ex-student of DIT	25	33
Other Teacher	22	32
Science Teacher	21	29
A Member of Staff at DIT	12	17

Strong Positive Influence on Decision to Study Engineering At DIT: Ranked by Average

	Number 2007	2007 %	2006 %	2005 %	2004 %	2003 %	Average %
Parent	124	32	30	36	30	25	**31**
Career Guidance Counsellor	83	21	21	24	18	22	**21**
Other Family Member	68	17	18	19	18	11	**17**
An Engineer	55	15	18	15	13	n/a	**15**
A Current Student of DIT	61	16	15	12	11	13	**13**
An Ex-student of DIT	47	12	10	8	11	12	**11**
Engineering Teacher	27	7	11	6	8	9	**8**
Other	25	6	8	8	5	n/a	**7**
A member of Staff at DIT	30	5	5	6	5	7	**6**
Construction Studies Teacher	23	6	6	n/a	n/a	n/a	**6**
Maths Teacher	20	5	6	6	4	4	**5**
Other Teacher	17	4	5	4	5	7	**5**
Science Teacher	14	4	5	4	3	3	**4**

All Positive Influence On Decision To Study Engineering at DIT By Gender (Percentage)

	Male 2007	Female 2007	Male 2006	Female 2006	Male 2005	Female 2005	Male 2004	Female 2004
Parent	59	68	61	44	60	68	53	70
Career Guidance Counselor	48	37	44	46	47	43	39	42
Other Family Member	38	42	41	44	40	68	35	49
An Engineer	26	42	27	30	26	33	25	33
A Current Student of DIT	29	56	29	41	24	40	20	30
An Ex-student of DIT	26	34	22	32	17	25	21	37
Engineering Teacher	15	8	20	2	14	5	17	21
Other	16	5	15	17	15	15	9	21
A Member of Staff at DIT	14	32	13	15	11	23	9	25
Construction Studies Teacher	15	5	14	5	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Maths Teacher	17	18	12	20	14	10	14	14
Other Teacher	18	26	12	12	13	20	11	30
Science Teacher	10	10	13	7	10	28	11	9

All Positive Influencers on Decision to Study Engineering at DIT by Gender (Percentage) Average 2004-7

	Male Average 2004-7	Female Average 2004-7
Parent	58	63
Career Guidance Counselor	45	42
Other Family Member	39	51
An Engineer	26	35
A Current Student of DIT	26	42
An Ex-student of DIT	22	32
Engineering Teacher	17	9
Other	14	15
A Member of Staff at DIT	12	24
Construction Studies Teacher	15	5
Maths Teacher	14	16
Other Teacher	14	22
Science Teacher	11	14

Strong Positive Influence On Decision To Study Engineering At DIT Compared With Strong Positive Influence to Study Engineering

	Influence To Study Engineering Average 2003-7 %	Influence To Study Engineering at DIT Average 2003-7 %
Parent	**37**	**31**
Career Guidance Counsellor	**26**	**21**
An Engineer	**23**	**15**
Other Family Member	**19**	**17**
Engineering Teacher	**13**	**8**
A Current Student of DIT	**12**	**13**
Maths Teacher	**10**	**5**
Other	**10**	**7**
Construction Studies Teacher	**9**	**6**
An Ex-student of DIT	**9**	**11**
Other Teacher	**8**	**5**
Science Teacher	**8**	**4**
A member of Staff at DIT	**6**	**6**

Note that in general the percentages are smaller in the second column

The Engineering Teacher

This section looks at those students who took Engineering at School and completed the questionnaire.

Influence Of The Engineering Teacher On Their Decision To Do Engineering

	2007 Number	2007 %	2005 %	2004 %
Some Positive Influence	21	31	41	29
Strong Positive Influence	35	52	43	60

73 responded to the question looking at the influence of Engineering Teacher on decision to come to DIT.

Influence Of Engineering Teacher On Decision To Attend DIT

	2007 Number	2007 %	2005 %	2004 %
Some Positive Influence	24	34	29	39
Strong Positive Influence	22	31	30	36

In 2007 53% of those who did Engineering gave the answer 'I liked Engineering at school' a first or second preference for their reason for studying engineering.

In 2007 we asked the same questions in relation to the Construction Studies teacher and found that of those who did the subject 38% said the teacher had some positive influence while 26% said they had a strong positive influence on their decision to do engineering. 29% said they had some positive influence while 36% said they had a strong positive influence on their decision to study at DIT.

In 2007 29% of those who did Construction Studies gave the answer 'I liked Construction Studies at school' a first or second preference for their reason for studying engineering.

Career Guidance

Career Guidance at School

	2007 Number	2007 %	2006 %	2005 %
Class-based with career guidance counsellor	81	21	21	18
One-to-one with career guidance counsellor	65	17	22	20
Both of the above	216	57	51	53
None of the above	18	5	6	8
Total	380	100	100	100

Transition Year

	2007 Number	2007 %	2006 %	2005 %
Yes	212	56	54	46
No	168	44	46	54
Total	380	100	100	100

Clear Understanding of Course before Attending DIT

	2007 Number	2007 %	2006 %	2005 %	2004 %
Yes	223	62	69	58	57
No	139	38	31	42	43
Total	362	100	100	100	100

Engineers in the Family

Family members Engineers

N of Engineers in Family	2007 Number	2007 %	2006 %
0	232	61	64
1-2	117	31	31
3-4	25	7	5
5 or more	4	1	1

Family members Engineers by Gender

N of Engineers in Family	Male 2007 %	Female 2007 %	Male 2006 %	Female 2006 %
0	62	56	65	56
1-2	30	36	31	39
3-4	6	8	4	5
5 or more	1	0	0.2	0

Relatives Who Are Engineers

Percentage of Those Who Had A Relative Who Is an Engineer 2006 and 2007 Combined

	All %	Male %	Female %
Uncle	40	40	40
Father	32	32	29
Cousin	28	26	46
Brother	21	21	14
Grandfather	10	9	17
Aunt	3	3	6
Sister	3	3	3
Mother	1	1	3

Family Members Attending DIT

Have Any Members of Your Family Attended DIT?

	2007 Number	2007 %	2006 %	2005 %	2004 %
Yes	141	38	36	36	40
No	234	62	64	64	60

Number of Family Members Who Attended DIT.

	2007	2006	2005
0	234 (62%)	275 (64%)	273 (64%)
1-2	124 (33%)	142 (33%)	140 (33%)
3-4	16 (4%)	9 (2%)	12 (3%)
5 or more	1 (0.3%)	2 (0.5%)	1 (0.2%)

Family Members Who attended DIT by Gender.

Percentage who had Family Members who Attended DIT	Male	Female
2005	35%	45%
2006	35%	46%
2007	38%	37%

Family Members Who Had Studied Engineering at DIT by Gender

Percentage who had Family Members who Studied Engineering at DIT	All	Male	Female
2005	22%	22%	25%
2006	22%	22%	17%
2007	23%	22%	29%

Relatives Who Studied Engineering at DIT

Percentage of Those Who Had A Relative Who Studied Engineering at DIT 2005, 2006 and 2007 Combined

	All Number	All %	Male %	Female %
Father	64	23	24	14
Brother	64	23	25	11
Uncle	59	21	21	21
Cousin	51	19	17	32
Sister	9	3	2	11
Mother	6	2	2	0
Grandfather	5	2	0.4	0
Aunt	4	1	1	4

Evaluation of DIT Recruitment Activities

DIT Activities Participation and Ratings 2007

Activity	Number (Percentage) Who Participated	Number (Percentage)* Rating The Activity Good Or Very Good	Number (Percentage)* Who Were Influenced To Come To DIT By Activity
DIT Open Day/Information Day	111 (29%)	95 (85%)	84 (81 %)
Staff Visit To School	80 (22%)	71 (89%)	65 (82%)
Student Visit To School	31 (9%)	28 (90%)	23 (74%)
Read Course Brochures Or Booklets	324 (87%)	280 (88%)	273 (87%)
Visited DIT Website	275 (74%)	201 (74%)	126 (47%)

**Percentage of total who participated in this activity*

DIT Activities Participation and Ratings: Average Percentage 2003-2007

Activity	Number (Percentage) Who Participated	Number (Percentage)* Rating The Activity Good Or Very Good	Number (Percentage)* Who Were Influenced To Come To DIT By Activity
DIT Open Day/Information Day	31	80	78
Staff Visit To School	22	89	73
Student Visit To School	7	87	67
Read Course Brochures Or Booklets	87	83	84
Visited DIT Website	72	71	52

**Percentage of total who participated in this activity*

DIT Activities Participation and Ratings 2003 - 2007

Activity		2007	2006	2005	2004	2003
DIT Open Day/Information Day	% Participation	29	30	33	32	33
	% Rating Good or Very Good*	85	85	85	68	79
	% Influenced to Come to DIT*	81	84	82	69	75
Staff Visit To School	% Participation	22	27	21	21	17
	% Rating Good or Very Good*	89	86	96	85	89
	% Influenced to Come to DIT*	82	66	73	65	79
Student Visit To School	% Participation	9	10	5	6	5
	% Rating Good or Very Good*	90	75	100	71	100
	% Influenced to Come to DIT*	74	59	50	57	95
Read Course Brochures Or Booklets	% Participation	87	90	89	82	88
	% Rating Good or Very Good*	88	89	83	77	80
	% Influenced to Come to DIT*	87	85	81	80	86
Visited DIT Website	% Participation	74	79	66	65	74
	% Rating Good or Very Good*	74	78	81	50	70
	% Influenced to Come to DIT*	47	53	56	51	52

**Percentage of total who participated in this activity*

ENGZONE 2007

	Have You Heard of ENGZONE?	Have you logged on to ENGZONE? *
Yes	18%	28%
No	82%	72%

***Percentage of total who had heard of Engzone*

Accommodation and Location

Type of Accommodation

	2007 Number	2007 %	2006 %	2005 %	2004 %
Rented accommodation	73	19	25	28	27
Digs	13	3	2	3	5
In your family home	280	72	67	65	62
With relatives in Dublin	13	3	2	2	3
Other	9	2	2	2	2
Total	388	100.0	100	100	100

Type of Accommodation by County 2007

	Family Home	Rented	Digs	With Relatives in Dublin	Other	Total
No County recorded	10	9	1	0	0	20
Carlow	0	2	0	0	0	2
Cavan	0	6	1	1	0	8
Donegal	0	1	0	1	0	2
Dublin	178	5	0	5	2	190
Kildare	30	2	0	2	2	36
Kilkenny	0	1	1	0	0	2
Laois	1	4	0	0	0	5
Leitrim	0	0	1	0	0	1
Longford	0	2	0	0	0	2
Louth	12	3	1	0	0	16
Mayo	0	3	0	1	0	4
Meath	18	11	4	1	0	34
Monaghan	0	1	1	0	0	2
Offaly	1	1	0	0	0	2
Roscommon	0	1	0	0	0	1
Westmeath	1	3	0	0	1	5
Wexford	0	7	2	2	0	11
Wicklow	13	2	1	0	0	16
Total	**264**	**64**	**13**	**13**	**5**	**359**